

OFFICIAL

DOCKET NO.: IBIS0002-100 (IBIS-0368)

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Ecker, Griffey, Sampath, Hofstadler, McNeil, and Crooke

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Serial No.: 09/891,793

Group Art Unit: 1631

DEC 23 2003

Filed: June 26, 2001

Examiner: A. Marschel

**Title: A Secondary Structure Defining Database And Methods For Determining Identity
And Geographic Origin Of An Unknown Bioagent Thereby**

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On 23 December 2003


Paul K. Legaard Reg. No. 36,534

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

In response to the Office Action mailed August 26, 2003 in connection with the above-identified patent application, Applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows. The period for responding to the Office Action has been extended, by enclosure of a petition and fee, to and through December 26, 2003.